THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (e) Government of Himachal Pradesh in a Memorandum submitted to Government of India has claimed a share of 7.19% in power generated from Bhakra nangal and Beas Projects under the control of Bhakra Beas Management Board. This claim is based on the transfer of population to Himachal Pradesh consequent upon coming into force the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 (31 of 1966).

In addition, Government of Himachal Pradesh has also demanded 12% free power from Bhakra Nangal and Beas Projects on account of distress caused and surrendered of rights to generate power.

The Government of Himachal Pradesh has filed an Original Suit No. 2 of 1996 under Article 131 of the Constitution of india in June, 1996 in the Supreme Court. The matter is now sub-judice.

Settlement of pending Income Tax refund cases

*40. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: SHRI ANIL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 191 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th August; 1997 and state:

(a) the number of cases of refund of income-tax still pending unsettled under I.T.O. New Delhi range 12 for the assessment years 1988-89, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) the reasons for non-settlement of the abovementioned refund cases of income tax even though Government had assured that all the cases would be settled' by 31st October, 1997; and

(c) by when assessees will get the refund orders from the IT authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) All the cases of refund as referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 191 for 5.8.97 have since been paid except in a single case where part refund for assessment 1995-96 has been made.

(b) and (c) The balance amount of refund has not been paid due to the requirement of verification .of certain documents for which the cooperation from the concerned assessee is awaited.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO NSTARRED QUESTIONS

Delhi as an international cargo hub

156. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Airports Authority of India plans to make Delhi as an interna tional cargo hub;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated so far in this regard; and

(d) how far it will encourage the movement of cargo from Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to develop Delhi as a "Major Cargo Hub". The Cargo Facilities for processing international cargo at Delhi Airport have been augmented by Airports Authority of India (AAI) progressively from 1980. Steps are also being taken for speedy automatic transfer of transhipment cargo to' inland customs airports and foreign destinations to facilitate hassle free transfer of cargo. Besides, a parallel Joint Venture Export Terminal with International State-of-the Art Technology and systems with AAI having minimum equity participation is also planned.

(c) Presently, works are in progress for the expansion of the cargo terminal at Delhi Airport at a cost of Rs. 42 crores. These works are expected to be completed by April, 2000.